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The best naturalists themselves are readjusting their system, since the discovery of the alternate generation of many of the lower orders makes it certain that many plants have had several names apiece allotted to them in the best lists—even Berkeley's. For this reason I report only the larger ones now.

I would most gladly exchange observations and such tentative knowledge as I possess with any other observer in the same field.

LIST.

AGARICINI.	TRICHOGASTERS.
Agaricus, species.....8+	Geaster, sp.....1
Coprinus, species.....5	Lycoperdon, sp.....5
Schizophyllum commune.....1	
POLYPORI.	MYXOGASTERS.
Boletus, species.....1	Lycogala, sp.....1
Polyporus, sp.....6+	
HYDNEI.	NIDULARIACEI.
Hydnum, sp.....1	Cyathus, sp.....1+
TREMELINI.	PUCCINÆI.
Hirneola auricula.....1	Puccinia, sp.....1+
CLAVAREI.	Ustilago maydis.....1
Clavaria, sp.....2+	Podisoma1
PHALLOIDEI.	ELVELLACEI.
Cynophallus, sp.....1	Marchella, sp.....1
	Peziza, sp.....1

Being 11 orders, 18 genera, and more than 39 species. Of these, only the Puccinia and the Lycogala are minute. I hope to report further hereafter.

 TRACES OF THE ABORIGINES IN RILEY COUNTY.

By Prof. G. H. Failyer, State Agricultural College.

Animated by several rich discoveries in our midst, a few of us of the Agricultural College found time, during the closing weeks of last spring term, to make some examination of the burial mounds and pottery fields in the vicinity of Manhattan. This work was partially under the direction of and by a college organization known as The Scientific Club, and to some extent by individual effort—all, however, by members of the club. I therefore come before you more as a representative of these labors collectively, than of my own actual work. I shall simply present some account of the work in

this line without indulging in generalizations; premising that more extended investigations must be made ere we are justified in more than outlining possible hypotheses regarding these ancient inhabitants.

In various portions of Riley county are found abundant evidence of the existence of a people long since departed from their once familiar haunts. These evidences are found in their burial mounds containing implements, utensils and ornaments, and in the sites of their pottery yards and kilns. These shall be described more in detail.

In making some investigations along the track of the tornado of May 30, 1879, which passed near Stockdale, my attention was called to the flint arrowheads and fragments of pottery which from time to time had been picked up in a field just south of and bordering upon the little town of Stockdale. A few specimens were then collected. Nothing further was done with this until our party of eight, accompanied by Gov. Green, who resides near Stockdale, repaired thither on the 22nd day of May, 1880. This field belongs to a Mr. Condray. It covers about forty acres, and has been in cultivation for upwards of twenty years. After each plowing, fragments of pottery with the well-known grass-marks, and variously ornamented, arrowheads, scrapers, etc., have been picked up. When we visited it, there was a growing crop on the field; but, being corn which was yet small, a pretty fair view of the field could be had. Extensive digging, however, was out of the question. At various places over the field were elevations one to two feet in height. These were evidently the sites of furnaces or other structures where their pottery was burned. The height of these elevations had probably been reduced considerably by the plow. Removing the soil one and a half to two feet in depth, limestone plainly showing the action of fire was found. This, seemingly, was used as the floor of their kilns. Pieces of burned clay, not mixed with sand, and fragments of pottery, were especially abundant about these kilns. It must be borne in mind that pottery and flint implements are scattered all over the field. When the removal of the crop will permit, the club intends to complete the work, making surveys, etc. I have here specimens obtained in this field. For comparison with those obtained from burial mounds, I invite careful examination of them. From a burial mound near by, containing fragments of very much decayed bones, were obtained a few small pieces of pottery and a few beads and arrowheads. This mound is on a bluff facing the east. But as this is the general direction of the bluff, it seems no effort was made to secure such position.

Three miles north of Stockdale is another point in which very interesting discoveries were made by Mr. S. C. Mason, a college student. In the center of a large field on the west bank of the Blue river is a slight rise in the surface. But when first occupied it consisted of a square forty feet to the side, and enclosed by a low wall of earth. The mound was opened, and two fire-beds ten feet apart were uncovered at a depth of two feet. These were stone, three feet square, burned quite red, and broken by the heat. All about these fire-beds, and below the depth to which it had been plowed, the soil was mixed with ashes, charcoal, burnt clay, flint chips and fragments of pottery. The charcoal was from three varieties of wood. The diameter of some of the vessels, as determined from the fragments obtained, was nine inches to a foot. This was March 6th, 1880. Two miles from the mouth of Mill creek Mr. Mason found a similar bed, partly washed away by the

stream. An hour's work here yielded pottery, flint implements, charcoal, and a wasp's nest burned black; and Mr. Mason thinks it the oldest mud-dauber's nest on record. The specimens before you are from these places.

On the 29th of May last, we opened some mounds one mile east of Manhattan, and on the opposite bluff of the Kansas river, at a sharp angle in the bluff. One of these contained, in addition to the fragments of bones, a few arrow-heads and beads. The other one gave better returns for the labor. There were burials at two levels. The upper portions of the first skeleton reached were so far decayed that only the teeth and small fragments of the skull could be found. These showed the action of fire. The larger bones of the limbs were in such position from the teeth as to indicate a reclining posture. In the position where we judged the head ought to be, several fragments of pottery were to be found. Put together, they form the portion of a vessel before you. Whether this was a true burial urn, I do not assert; but the intricate ornamental figures upon the urn betoken no ordinary vessel.

About one foot below this skeleton, and two feet west of it, was another. It was better preserved, and many of the bones were taken out; but they were fragile and easily broken. This body had been placed in a sitting posture, facing the east or northeast. No arrow-heads, pottery or beads were found about this skeleton.

For more than a year one of our young men, Mr. W. J. Griffing, has been hunting up these burial mounds and opening them. On last Thanksgiving day he invited me to assist him in the further excavation of a mound about three miles west of Manhattan, on a high point of the bluff between the Kansas river and Wild Cat creek. A rain soon put a stop to our operations. But Mr. Griffing has, at intervals, continued the work, finding many things of interest. At various times these articles have been unearthed at this place. They consist of arrow-heads, rimmers, fleshers, beads of shells and birds' bones, pieces of bone implements, and, perhaps of greater interest, a piece of copper. This appears to have been hammered into shape.

About fifty yards south is a still smaller one. Diligent search has revealed only portions of skeletons. About one dozen of these have been found. Whether this is the site of more recent burials, or whether it is the grave of inferiors, women or slaughtered enemies, I can only conjecture. But, in studying these remains to determine to what manner of people they belonged, we should not lose sight of the seeming relation between these two burials mounds.

On the same bluff, and three-fourths of a mile south, is another mound. In this were found articles similar to those in others, but a very large number of beads of birds' bones. This latter and the following were worked up by Mr. Griffing. On a very prominent point about three miles east of Manhattan, Mr. Griffing opened a mound, securing thirty-four arrow-heads, nearly one hundred and fifty shell beads, and over three hundred bone beads. Here are some of the relics from this mound.

The lamented Prof. Mudge and Dr. Blachly, on Nov. 17th, 1879, opened the mound on the summit of Bluemont. This mound, which was formerly supposed to be natural, is the largest of which I have learned. Numerous specimens were obtained by these gentlemen. These beads and flint implements were found. But to these must be added others.

Mr. Griffing, who has done more work in this line in our vicinity than any other one person, dug over the dirt thrown from the mound, and was rewarded by obtaining spear and arrow-heads, a bone fish-hook, etc.

I have here some arrow and spear-heads that were found scattered over the prairie.

A locality which promises rich returns is the Wild Cat bottom, near the college. An abundance of pottery in small pieces has been found. A few days since, I spent an hour there, finding, at one place in the creek bank, and three feet below the present surface, bits of charcoal and pottery. Sinking a hole eighteen inches each way in an elevation in the bottom, three bits of pottery and several pieces of burned clay were taken out. I am confident pottery was made and burned here. The work at this point shall be followed up at the earliest opportunity.

It is not to be understood that all the small mounds in which portions of skeletons are found have contained implements, tools and ornaments. More than half have yielded only portions of skeletons. The locations of these mounds are similar, so far as I have been able to determine. All are on the highest hills. They are at present from six inches to two feet high, and in rare cases four to six feet; are composed of black earth and stone, with sand at bottom in some cases. The stones are weather-worn, being surface stones. There is always the appearance that the mound is stone-capped; but this has probably resulted from the washing away of the dirt. This has probably reduced the height very much.

Several questions are suggested by these discoveries. Prominently among these are, whether the pottery and the mounds were made by the same people. Are all the mounds the work of the same race; or are some more recent? Are any or all of these remains those of the people known further east as Mound Builders? Work in excavating these mounds should be systematic, having in view the answering of these and other questions, and should not be induced by the curiosity of the relic seeker. As yet we have not sufficient data to answer the questions. But a somewhat careful comparison of the collection placed before you has inclined me to believe that some of the mounds, at least, were made by the people living in the bottoms where pottery is now found abundantly.